## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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14-11

ACTION FBOE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 A-01 /012 W

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R 092355Z JUN 75 FM AMEMBASSY SUVA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4056 INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

**UNCLAS SUVA 620** 

**FBO** 

WELLINGTON FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: B/A TAGS: N/A

SUBJ: AVAILABILITY OF PROPERTY

- 1. AS DEPT AWARE, US GOVT OWNS PROPERTY OF 4 ACRES 2 ROODS IN CHOICE SECTION OF SUVA. EMBASSY HAS BEEN APPROACHED BY LOCAL REAL ESTATE AGENT TO SEE IF USG INTERESTED IN PURCHASING TWO LOTS THAT ADJOIN SOUTH SIDE OF PROPERTY. LOT ONE, WHICH FACES ONTO PRINCES ROAD, CONTAINS 1 ROOD 2.5 PERCHES. LOT TWO, DIRECTLY BEHIND LOT ONE, CONTAINS 2 ROODS 24.5 PERCHES. TWO LOTS TOTAL 3 ROODS 27 PERCHES, 13 PERCHES SHORT OF ONE ACRE. ASKING PRICE FOR BOTH LOTS IS FIJI DOLS 28,000 (US DOLS 35,840). EMBASSY IS BEING OFFERED FIRST OPTION ON PROPERTY SINCE IT ADJOINS USG SITE.
- 2. IN VIEW OF LOCATION OF USG OWNED SITE ON HILL, ADDITION OF ABOVE PROPERTY WOULD PROBABLY NOT SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE PROPERTY ALREADY HELD.
- 3. EMBASSY WOULD ALSO LIKE TO RAISE AGAIN WITH DEPT MATTER OF PURCHASE OF HOUSE LEASED FOR PRINCIPAL OFFICER (FBO 7, WAIVOTE ST., LAMI). CURRENT LEASE EXPIRES END OF JANUARY 1976, AND LOCAL AGENT IS CERTAIN LANDLORD WILL WISH TO SELL PROPERTY AT THAT TIME, IF NOT TO USG THEN TO WHOEVER IS INTERESTED. LANDLORD IS RESIDENT IN NEW ZEALAND, AND FINDS UNCLASSIFIED

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LEASING FIJI PROPERTY, A BURDEN, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF RECENT

GOF RESTRICTIONS ON TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM FIJI TO HIM IN NEW ZEALAND. IF USG NOT RPT NOT INTERESTED IN BUYING HOUSE, EMBASSY WILL EITHER HAVE TO RENEW LEASE WITH NEW OWNER (ASSUMING HE DOES NOT RPT NOT WISH TO LIVE IN HOUSE) OR FIND SUITABLE QUARTERS. IN EITHER CASE, MONTHLY RENTAL WILL PROBABLY BE IN EXCESS OF US DOLS 700. SUITABLE HOUSING IN SHORT SUPPLY AT PRESENT TIME, AS DEMAND FOR SO-CALLED EXECUTIVE HOUSES HAS GREATLY INCREASED.

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